Statement-III

Procurement by Government for Central Pool Marketing Year-wise

Sl.No.	Marketing Season	Wheat (April - March)	Rice (Oct - Sept)	Kharif Coarse Grains
1.	2003-04	158.01	228.28	6.51
2.	2004-05	167.96	246.83	8.27
3.	2005-06	147.85	276.56	11.44
4.	2006-07	92.26	251.07	Neg
5.	2007-08	111.28	284.29*	2.03

* position as on 3.10.2008

Price of sugar

†830. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a difference between the prices of sugar in domestic market of the country and those in the international market;

(b) if so, the average ex-factory price in the domestic market in the month of July, August and September, 2008 along with the same in international market during the said period;

(c) whether it is a fact that the consumer price of sugar has increased in the said months in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of the said prices and the quantity of sugar exported during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The ex-factory prices of sugar in major States during the months of July, August and September, 2008 were in the range of Rs. 1300-1640 per quintal, Rs.1550-1930 per quintal and Rs. 1500-1800 per quintal, respectively whereas the international prices of white sugar (London Daily Price - ex European Port Free-on-Board) were in the range of US$ 351-412.50 PMT, US $ 378.80-414.50 PMT and US $ 365.50-399.30 PMT, respectively.

(c) and (d) The retail prices of sugar in the four metro cities of the country which were in the range of Rs.16-19 per kg. during the month of July, 2008 increased to Rs. 17-22 per kg. in the months of August and September, 2008. As per information gathered from trade circles, a quantity of 6.34 lakh tonnes of sugar was exported during this three month period.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.